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# **A**gricultural **L**ibraries **I**nformation **N**otes



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photo courtesy of University of Nebraska—Lincoln  
The group involved in the 4-H project at the University Libraries, University of Nebraska—Lincoln. See box on following page for project description.

## **National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program**

by Donna S. Collins  
Head, Monographic Cataloging Section  
Cataloging Branch, NAL

The National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program consists of a network of libraries that prepare machine-readable cataloging records for agricultural titles. These records are added to the AGRICOLA database, enhancing its coverage and allowing participants to contribute agricultural titles for national online accessibility.

### **Program History**

In late 1983, Joseph Howard, Director, NAL, and OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) began preliminary discussions concerning the estab-

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lishment of a multi-institutional tape for the National Agricultural Library (NAL) and designated institutions. The purpose of these discussions was to develop a vehicle through which a network of mainly land-grant university libraries could participate in the cooperative cataloging of agricultural monographs. The participating members would contribute unique agricultural records not only to OCLC, but to the AGRICOLA database as well.

In late 1984, the planning stages for implementation of the program began in the NAL Cataloging Branch. By October 1985, after months of planning, the Cataloging Branch implemented a cooperative cataloging test project with the U.S. Department of the Interior Natural Resources Library (NRL). As part of the test project, NRL prepared OCLC records in order to produce a network tape of newly acquired NRL agricultural monographs to be loaded into AGRICOLA.

With the success of this test project, the National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program became a reality in early 1986 when several other libraries began contributing records for the program. Early participants were Cornell University, Ohio State University, and Texas A & M University. More recent participants include the Universities of Arkansas, Florida, Minnesota, and Vermont, as well as Colorado State University, Louisiana State University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Part of the success of the program lies in the fact that participation involves little work above the current original cataloging level now being performed by participating libraries. Yet the benefits are far-reaching. Cooperative institution records are not only made available nationally in AGRICOLA for the research and academic community, but the coverage of AGRICOLA is also enhanced. Cataloging overlap decreases, project members provide national level bibliographic records to OCLC, and resource sharing increases among libraries.

## Training

NAL provides program members with guidelines for the selection of appropriate records and trains them in assigning AGRICOLA Subject Category and Source Codes through a cor-



photo courtesy of Leflar Law Center

Participants in the cooperative cataloging project at the National Center for Agricultural Law Research and Information, Robert A. Leflar Law Center, University of Arkansas, include Jo Anna Collins (left), who handles acquisitions and assists with cataloging, and Sally Kelley, Assistant Law Librarian, who is the cataloger and reference librarian and oversees all aspects of the law collection.

respondence training course developed by the Cataloging Branch. This course has proven to be a most successful and cost-effective means of training since the guidelines are self-explanatory and well-structured.

Project participants receive an Enhance Authorization (under the OCLC symbol AGX) from OCLC and thus can update existing OCLC records. The Enhance Authorization allows libraries to add the AGRICOLA Subject Category Codes to the master record on OCLC as well as to make any necessary corrections to existing records. Thus, they produce a national-level record in OCLC and, simultaneously, a record for a special multi-institutional network tape which NAL processes for distribution on the AGRICOLA sales tape. Within the AGRICOLA citation, the document location is displayed as the individual National Union Catalog (NUC) institutional symbol.

## Current Participation

Participating libraries are enthusiastic about the program and have even taken the initiative to expand their participation further. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, for example, began contributing records in 1987 and in 1991 expanded its contributions to include Nebraska 4-H youth development publications. Sandra Facinoli, Head of NAL's Food and Nutrition Information Center (and former head of the Youth Development Information Center) recognized the strong 4-H program in Nebraska and

### Cover Photo

Left to right, standing:

Dean Corwin, Principal Cataloger, revises cataloging before input into OCLC and is cataloging consultant;

Sandra Herzinger, Chair, Cataloging Department, project coordinator;

Doug Scheffert, Library Assistant, adds necessary fields and updates for AGX;

B. J. Kacena-Gauger, Librarian, C. Y. Thompson Library, provides liaison with the 4-H Youth Development Office and assigns AGRICOLA subject category codes and special subject headings; selects materials from regular cataloging workflow, including local theses, to be included in AGX.

At the terminal:

Sue Grammer, Library Assistant, searches OCLC, edits OCLC copy, prepares new cataloging records for 4-H titles.

The C.Y. Thompson Library includes the agricultural materials of the University Libraries, University of Nebraska—Lincoln. AGX is the OCLC symbol for items included in the cooperative project between NAL and other libraries.





photo courtesy of University of Florida Libraries

Another participant in the cooperative cataloging project with NAL is Mae Clark of the Cataloging Department of the University of Florida Libraries.

encouraged Bill Caldwell, director of Nebraska's 4-H program, to coordinate with the University Library in obtaining these materials and adding them to AGRICOLA via AGX. According to Sandra Herzinger, AGX Program Leader and Chair of the Cataloging Department at the University of Nebraska, fitting the youth development items into the AGX workflow was no problem and they have been successfully contributing these records ever since.

The National Center for Agricultural Law Research and Information, Robert A. Leflar Law Center, University of Arkansas, became a program participant in late 1989 and has been successfully contributing records ever since. The Leflar Law Center began in 1988 and is funded by NAL. Sally Kelley, Center Librarian and AGX Program Leader, says that one of the main reasons for becoming a participant was that the Center felt a responsibility to make its agricultural law materials available nationally through AGRICOLA. Since they are also responsible for making their materials available to NAL patrons via OCLC's Interlibrary Loan Subsystem (ILL), they felt that they could better serve the agricultural community by providing access through both databases. The AGX Program enables the Center to provide these services simultaneously. Furthermore, since NAL has not historically collected extensively in agricultural law (due to the overlap with the Library of Congress Law Library), the records that the Center contributes are unique to AGRICOLA, thus further enhancing its coverage.

The University of Florida, Gainesville, began con-

tributing records in July 1991. Mae Clark, Program Leader for the University, says that she has many original agricultural titles waiting "in the wings" for the project. They will be processed for inclusion on AGRICOLA at the same time they are cataloged for the University. She has also identified a series which the University will be cataloging and which would be in scope for the AGX project. The series title is the "Series of the University of Florida, Food and Resource Economics Department." This title had been indexed by NAL, but will now be added to AGRICOLA through the efforts of the University of Florida. This will save NAL's Cataloging and Indexing Branches a significant amount of resources.

Another method by which libraries are participating in the program is through the contribution of dissertations and theses. Colorado State University, Louisiana State University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Universities of Arkansas and Minnesota are submitting their original agricultural dissertations and theses for inclusion in AGRICOLA. The NAL Cataloging Branch is facilitating their participation by adding local fields such as AGRICOLA Subject Category and Source Codes to the OCLC records or directly keying the records into OCLC for non-OCLC member libraries, thus further enhancing the AGRICOLA database with these unique titles. Several other universities have expressed an interest in becoming participants in this manner and NAL is actively pursuing growth in this area.

Since its inception in 1983, the National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program has grown to include participation in a variety of ways. Libraries may contribute machine-readable cataloging records via OCLC for unique agricultural titles. OCLC member libraries may submit catalogs of their original dissertations and theses to the NAL Acquisitions Branch; from these catalogs NAL Acquisitions will select agricultural titles and the NAL Cataloging Branch will include the records in the AGRICOLA database and add AGRICOLA Subject Category and Source Codes. Libraries that are not members of OCLC may submit either catalog cards or printouts of machine-readable cataloging records for their agricultural dissertations and theses to the NAL Cataloging Branch. The Cataloging Branch will input the records on OCLC, adding the appropriate AGRICOLA codes for inclusion in the AGRICOLA database.

The AGX Program is a valuable tool for increasing cooperation among libraries as well as for expanding the coverage of AGRICOLA. Because libraries today are continually facing increasing costs and shrinking budgets, it is becoming more and more difficult for single institutions to be comprehensive in their collections. Therefore, NAL works with the land-grant libraries and other university libraries in a variety of ways in order to increase access. The National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program is one way of accomplishing this. Through this program and others of this nature, AGRICOLA has changed from being solely a record of NAL's holdings; it has moved toward becoming a database of citations relating to agriculture, regardless of physical location.

If interested in becoming a member of the National Agricultural Cooperative Cataloging Program or for further information, please contact:

*Head, Cataloging Branch  
National Agricultural Library, Rm. 110  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351*



# Symposium on Advances in Information Technology September 16-20, 1991

Beltsville, Maryland

Sponsored by

The International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD)

Hosted by

The National Agricultural Library

## IAALD New Technology Symposium a Success

Over one hundred people from fifteen different countries attended the *Symposium on Advances in Information Technology* sponsored by the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD) on September 16-20, 1991, and hosted by the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland.

The symposium was the first in a planned series of IAALD symposia or workshops to be held worldwide over the next several years. It featured in-depth lectures and demonstrations of new information technologies, with ample time provided for in-depth discussions among the participants. Tours and technology briefings were also offered of the National Agricultural Library, the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

An excellent mixture of noted speakers shared their experiences and opinions with the symposium participants.

Abstracts of the presented papers follows on the next several pages of this issue of *ALIN*.

Proceedings of the Symposium will be published as Volume 37, Numbers 1/2, of the *IAALD Quarterly Bulletin* in 1992.

## Abstracts of Papers

(In Sequence Presented)

*Will We Manage—or Be Managed—by Information Technology?* by Dr. Gary L. Vacin, Head, Department of Agricultural Communications, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Stresses the need for agricultural information specialists to manage technology, rather than allowing it to manage them. Technology has had a tremendous impact on information work, but technology is a tool—a powerful tool with great potential—to help information specialists accomplish their mission. The technological explosion is occurring at a time of tight economic conditions in the U.S. and around the world. Information technology is a big ticket item. Mistakes in selecting and using this tool can be extremely costly. Provides examples of managing and being managed by technology, and offers suggestions for how information specialists can better manage technology.

*CTA's Information Policy and Its Experience with CD-ROM Technology in African, Caribbean, and Pacific Countries.* by Andries M. Dusink, CD-ROM Project Officer, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation ACP-EEC (CTA), The Netherlands. (Presented by Dr. Jan van der Burg.)

Discusses CTA's mandate which is "Improving the access of African, Caribbean, and Pacific states to agricultural information." CTA's policy is to bring together information sources, information media and technologies, and information needs. In this context CTA supplied CD-ROM equipment, disks and training to twenty-one sites in seventeen different developing countries. The evaluation of the purchasing of CD-ROM technology in a variety of countries is very informative. CTA will expand its CD-ROM projects to new sites, lay more emphasis on training and on integrating the technology into the existing administrative system.



photo: D. Starr

Pamela Mason (right) of NAL's Database Administration Branch demonstrates *Plant It!—CD*, using the *Plant Expert Advisor* she developed at NAL, for IAALD symposium participants (l-r) Pauline Zoellick, Eckehard König, Sandra Barnes, and Anton Mangstl.



*A Videotex-Program for Information in Nutrition: Access to Literature and Factual Databases.* by Roy Ackmann, Director of the Office of Information and Documentation, Institute for Nutrition Sciences, University of Giessen, Germany.

Today technical nutrition information is an essential tool in everyday work for nutrition scientists and in nutrition and consumer education. The Office of Information and Documentation developed a videotex system which mediates nutrition information in the form of expert opinions, literature reviews, and references. In addition, the system will allow access to databases for nutrition and food in the future. Contents and structure of the system are described.

*Use of Optical Scanning for Data Entry: Comparison of the TransImage Handscanner and the OfficeScan Work Station.* by Shirley J. Edwards, Head, Indexing Branch, National Agricultural Library.

The Indexing Branch of the National Agricultural Library produces approximately 80,000 indexing records for the AGRICOLA (AGRICultural OnLine Access) bibliographic database annually. One of the goals for the enhancement of AGRICOLA has been to increase the number of records containing abstracts. Limited resources and a recognized need to improve efficiency through the application of new technologies led to the initiation of a cooperative project between the Indexing Branch and the Library Automation Branch of NAL in 1988. The objectives were to evaluate optical scanning technology for data entry of bibliographic information and to compare it with manual data entry. Two scanning systems have been tested and the results of those tests are reported.

*Plant It!—CD: A Multimedia CD-ROM on Ornamental Horticulture.* by Pamela R. Mason, Computer Specialist, National Agricultural Library.

*Plant It!—CD*, a prototype multimedia CD-ROM is a joint project of the National Agricultural Library, the University of Florida's Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences, and the Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service. This interactive CD-ROM contains over 1,000 full-color images, an audio pronunciation guide to scientific plant names, full text documents, selected bibliographies, and an extensive database on plants, all linked together through hypermedia connections. The disc features a dual interface: The Plant Selector, developed at the University of Florida, and the PlantExpert Advisor, an expert advisory system developed at the National Agricultural Library.

*The Use of an Expert System to Assist Retrieval from Agricultural Databases.* by Dr. Eckehard König, Director of the Information Section, Zentralstelle für Agrardokumentation und -Information (ZADI), Germany; and Dr. Anton Mangstl, Director, ZADI, Germany.

Describes a European Community project to develop an expert system to assist retrieval in agricultural databases, namely AGRICOLA, AGRIS, and CAB ABSTRACTS. With the aid of knowledge bases, e.g., Thesauri (CAB Thesaurus, AGROVOC), classification schemes, and ex-

tracts of databases, the expert system prepares the search profile optimized for database and host computer. The results of the search are formatted and stored in a local database. Gives an overview of the work to be carried out in international cooperation under the leadership of ZADI.

*A Computer Assisted Indexing System (CAIN).* by Torben Friis, Chief Consultant, DataCentralen, Denmark.

CAIN is being developed as part of the European system for registration of ongoing agricultural research. The PC-based expert system is being developed in response to the introduction of key words and additional facet codes to describe projects, in order to prevent an increase in indexing costs and to improve the consistency and quality of indexing. The system is based on an expert-developed rule set for indexing and a user friendly window-based interface. Explains the development and principles of CAIN, demonstrates the system, and discusses plans for further development.

*Digital Image and Optical Disk Technologies, a Brief Overview.* by William L. Hooton, Vice President, Operations, Electronic Information Systems Group, I-NET, Inc.

Provides a basic introduction to both technologies for the neophyte. Covers the more important issues for those who wish to design or purchase a system. Included issues are ways to save money, design a more efficient system, increase one's capabilities, as well as some outside considerations such as legality, archivability, submissability, and standards.

*Considerations for Implementing and Managing GIS Technology.* by Daniel M. Cotter, Senior Technical Advisor, Office of Risk Assessment, Federal Insurance Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

## Proceedings of IAALD 8th World Congress Available

Interested in the global information industry? The International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists has published the *Proceedings* of its 8th World Congress in Budapest. "Information and the end-user" is the theme of the 38 conference papers from information specialists world-wide. The *Proceedings* have been published as Volume 36, Nos. 1/2 of the *IAALD Quarterly Bulletin*.

The price is US\$30, plus US\$5 shipping and handling for the U.S. and Canada, and US\$10 all other countries. Prepayment is required.

For more information or ordering, contact:

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—A. P. Powell

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology is rapidly becoming the basis for spatial data management within the federal government. Federal agencies are facing limitations on budgetary and staff resources at the same time responsibilities of many organizations are being increased. GIS is being viewed as a technological solution to this paradox, capable of increasing agency efficiency and offering large gains in analytical capabilities. The advances in the supporting GIS technologies: telecommunications, remote sensing, and computer hardware/software, which are evolving during the 90s at a pace that exceeds even that of the 80s, may justify this optimism. However, the relative immaturity of the GIS field makes implementation a risky venture. Use of GIS Life Cycle Analysis techniques, requirements studies, and coordination with other federal agencies are basic tasks required to minimize risks. Presents an overview of GIS technology and some issues to be considered in the management of programs to automate spatial data and geographic analysis.

*Optical Scanning and Text Recognition — Operating an In-House System.* by Judith A. Zidar, Computer Specialist, National Agricultural Library.

Addresses the three questions that are most frequently asked by visitors to NAL's in-house scanning center: Why are we doing it? How exactly is it done? What does it cost?

The answer to why we do it touches on the global forces that are shaping the Information Age. The many purposes for which scanning systems can be used represent a force in themselves that is explored in some detail. Regardless of the purpose, image scanning and optical character recognition (OCR) systems are made up of much the same components, and these are described. Focuses on operational procedures, workflow, throughput, staffing needs, and costs based on the experiences of the National Agricultural Text Digitizing Project at NAL.

*The Debut of Electronic Networked Journals.* by Ann Okerson, Director, Office of Scientific & Academic Publishing, Association of Research Libraries.

Reviews the current status of electronic journals and their future place in the publishing world. Offers insights on the impact this new form of material will have on libraries and librarians.

*Full Text on CD-ROM: What Makes Sense?* by W. Frederick Dürr, Publisher, National Information Services Corporation.

The impassioned rush to publish text on CD-ROM can often lead to mistakes in judgment regarding the most suitable materials for dissemination via this medium. What at first may seem to be an excellent idea may end up as little more than an expensive technology statement. Close attention must be given to both end-user requirements/environments and software functionality prior to the selection

of appropriate texts. An overview of several end-user profiles and CD-ROM authoring software systems provides some insight into the configuration of meaningful full-text CD-ROMs.

*A Multimedia CD-ROM Application.* by Mary Guy Miller, Director, Interactive Design and Development, Inc.

*The National CD-ROM Sampler: An Extension Reference Library* is a multimedia CD-ROM product containing 14,540 documents; 1,900 graphics; 71 comprehensive collections; 65 individual computer programs; and over fourteen minutes of audio. This product was developed through a cooperative agreement among the National Agricultural Library, Extension Service-USDA, Interactive Design and Development at Virginia Tech, and the University of Minnesota. Demonstrates the use of this multimedia CD-ROM and provides information on the design and development of this project.

*The CGIAR CD-ROM Project.* by Pauline A. Zoellick, Consultant, Manager, CGIAR Secretariat CD-ROM Project.

Since 1985 the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research has been involved in the production of a collection of its research reports on CD-ROM. This has involved the conversion of thousands of documents to machine-readable text and scanned images. Outline the history of the project from its inception to current status. Particular attention is paid to key factors that have impacted the design and production of the collection, with special emphasis on the ways in which this information can be put to use by those contemplating similar conversions.

*Intellectual Property in the Electronic Environment: Copyright Issues for Creators and Users of Electronic Information.* by Robert L. Oakley, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center.



photo: D. Starr

Susan Chapman (right) of NAL's Reference and User Services Branch guides a tour of the National Agricultural Library for a group of participants in the Symposium on Advances in Information Technology.



Both authors and users of information have many questions about the applicability of copyright in the electronic environment. Many have argued that electronic networks and new means of information dissemination raise fundamental questions about whether copyright can continue to achieve its objectives in the new world of information delivery. Answers some of the many questions raised by creators and users, and demonstrates the continued viability of copyright principles—or demonstrate, at least, that *the devil you know is better than the devil you don't*.

*Flood, Firehose, or Fountain? Status, Prospects, and Directions for Libraries as Network-based Information Servers.* by Dr. Ronald L. Larsen, Associate Director for Information Technology, University of Maryland Libraries.

The critical role that networks play in library automation is examined from a contemporary perspective. As libraries increase their levels of automation, expand their network connectivity to other libraries, and build electronic collections, their key role in an international information access agenda becomes clearer. Fundamental differences between print and electronic media present legal, financial, technical, and operational challenges. A four part approach to progress encourages breadth of connectivity, depth of materials available, tools for navigating through online resources, and facilities for collaboration.

*Networked Information: Close Horizons and Immediate Agendas.* by Paul Evan Peters, Director, Coalition for Networked Information.

Recent advances in digital, packet-switching networks, such as the Internet and the proposed National Research and Education Network (NREN), have excited interest in and have raised expectations for the application of such networks to information distribution and access in support of research and education. Describes these advances and the trends that they define, provides a framework for understanding the sorts of networked information resources and services that will result from these advances and trends, and proposes a variety of readiness factors and strategies important for making progress in this area.

*Library-Based Image Transmission Over Internet.* by John E. Ulmschneider, Assistant Director for Library Systems, North Carolina State University.

Much research literature in the sciences, and particularly in agriculture-related sciences, originates from private and government research stations, is published in the form of technical reports or technical papers, and often does not appear in readily available published literature. The requirement for prompt delivery of these materials to researchers, combined with the evolving sophistication of researchers in the application of computers to research problems, and increasing demands to integrate library support into scientists' re-

search functions, provides strong incentive to explore computer-based alternatives for delivery of these documents that overcome the drawbacks of existing technical and procedural mechanisms, such as facsimile and postal delivery of photocopies. Fourteen institutions are taking part in this research and demonstration project which electronically transmits document images to remote sites using the national Internet telecommunications system.

*Automated Document Delivery Prototype System.* by Dr. George R. Thoma, Chief, Communications Engineering, Lister Hill Center, National Library of Medicine.

While bibliographic database systems are commonly available for the search and retrieval of citations, it is still difficult and time-consuming to follow this up with the physical delivery of the actual documents or document surrogates. This usually entails the physical retrieval of the paper documents from the shelves, physically photocopying the documents and mailing the photocopies, all of which delay user receipt of the requested documents. A prototype system has been developed to investigate the technical and operational issues related to the automatic access to a document image database, and the retrieval and transmission of document images to remote sites via fax. The system consists of a complex of IBM AT-compatible and 386 machines linked by a Token Ring LAN. Covers engineering design considerations and describes hardware and software implementation.

*Fundamentals of LAN/WAN Access to CD-ROM and Alternative Information Technologies.* by Howard McQueen, President, CD Consultants, Inc.

The rapidly increasing number of databases available on CD-ROM, coupled with the high price demanded by many CD-ROM producers, are forcing organizations to investigate using Local Area Networks and Wide Area Networks to access their CD-ROMs. Presents issues to be addressed when considering LAN/WAN implementation, and offers



photo: D. Starr

A group of IAALD symposium participants questions Patricia Krug (seated center) of NAL's Reference and User Services Branch during a demonstration of NAL's online catalog in ISIS (Integrated System for Information Services) and other new technologies.



insights gained from several years' experience developing such systems.

*Digital Imaging for Library Preservation and Access—Technology Meets a Need.* by Lynne K. Personius, Director, Library Technology Department, Cornell University.

Cornell University Library (CUL) and Cornell Information Technologies (CIT) are collaborating in a project with Xerox Corporation and the Commission on Preservation and Access (CPA) to test an advanced technology for recording deteriorating books as digital images, producing, on demand, high quality paper facsimiles and evaluating use of the images for "browsing." Xerox is providing the technology and extensive staff support. Partial funding comes from the Commission on Preservation and Access, a non-profit organization acting on behalf of the nation's libraries, archives, and universities to develop collaborative scholarly resources.

Worldwide, about one-third of the books on shelves of research libraries are deteriorating as a result of the paper production processes of the mid-nineteenth century. Cornell University intends to explore the potential capabilities of adopting new technology for the benefit of all libraries by providing an archive for deteriorating books while providing scholars with paper copies for their research. The project has resulted in digitizing 1,000 volumes from the Cornell University Library (which represents a database of 300,000 digital images), producing archival quality paper facsimiles, and testing access capabilities presented by the new technology.


*PENpages—Sharing Agriculture and Extension Information Internationally Through the Internet.* by Deborah Lou Shaffer, Systems Project Analyst, Pennsylvania State University.

PENpages is a full-text information service that demonstrates the power of sharing information through the Internet. PENpages contains agriculture and consumer-oriented information for use by field-based extension professionals and public clientele. The system is the home of three national databases: MAPP—The Family and Economic Well-Being National Database; PER—Poultry Extension Resources; and Senior Series, a gerontology database. PENpages was instrumental in the dissemination of information relating to family issues during the war in the Persian Gulf.

*Standards Development for New Technologies.* by Patricia Harris, Executive Director, National Information Standards Organization.

Describes the standards organizations developing technical standards for information services with particular emphasis on the standards now in development impacting on new technologies.

*The Federal Computerized Information Delivery Service.* by Russell T. Forte, Coordinator, USDA Computerized Information Delivery Service.

USDA was the first federal agency to establish a significant online computer driven current information service for the public. USDA operated a pilot system called "USDA Online" starting in 1981 and went to the larger "CID Service" in 1985. The problems that slowed acceptance of the service, while looming in the first couple of years of operation, have receded greatly in recent years as people have become more used to distributing information through computers. Each month, USDA distributes over one million lines of current information to its relatively few subscribers. Many of these subscribers are information vendors who enhance USDA's bulk information and distribute it to their own hundreds or thousands of subscribers. USDA estimates the number of people who might get information through the CID Service as being in the hundreds of thousands. The service is available through a local telephone call from anywhere in the United States and is being used in many countries throughout the world. 

### The complete

#### *Proceedings of the Symposium on Advances in Information Technology*

will be published in Volume 37, Nos. 1/2 of the *IAALD Quarterly Bulletin* in the spring of 1992.

For price and ordering information contact:

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photo: D. Starr

IAALD Executive Committee members Vjacheslav Pozdnyakov (Central Scientific Agricultural Library, Russia), Wolfrudolf Laux (Biologische Bundesanstalt, Germany, and IAALD Junior Vice President), and Antoinette Powell (University of Kentucky, and Editor, *IAALD Quarterly Bulletin*) participate in a reception held by the Associates of the National Agricultural Library for IAALD. Behind them is the Exhibit: *The Art of American Livestock Breeding*.



# Sarah Thomas to Direct Cataloging at Library of Congress



photo: J. Swab

Dr. Sarah Thomas, Associate Director for Technical Services, NAL, moves to the Library of Congress, where she will be Director for Cataloging.

On February 11, 1992, Joseph H. Howard, NAL Director, announced in a memorandum to the NAL staff, "It is with mixed emotions that I announce Dr. Sarah Thomas' decision to accept the position of Director for Cataloging at the Library of Congress. Sarah's last day at NAL will be March 6. Sarah has been responsible for the success of many key programs at NAL, and her expertise and dedication will be sorely missed. However, Sarah's new position will offer her an exciting challenge and career growth opportunity, and I am sure you will want to join me in wishing her success in her new job."

At a reception held in Dr. Thomas' honor on February 26, most of the NAL staff and some former staff and visitors did join Mr. Howard in wishing her future success. Dr. Thomas was NAL's Associate Director for Technical Services.

Dr. Thomas joined the NAL staff in the autumn of 1984. The Technical Services



photo: J. Swab

Some of the Technical Services management staff gathered at Sarah Thomas' farewell party: (L-R) Idalia Acosta, Head, Cataloging Branch; Sarah; Phyllis Bickerton, Secretary; Claudia Weston, Assistant to the Associate Director; and Caroline Early, Head, Acquisitions/Serials Branch.

Division, which she directed, has responsibility for acquisitions/serials, cataloging, and indexing. Highlights of her tenure at NAL included implementation of automation in several areas of technical services, upgrading of a number of AGRICOLA database features, and introduction of scanning technology for data input.

Before coming to NAL, Dr. Thomas had held management and cataloging positions with the Research Libraries Group, Stanford, CA, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, GA, the Eisenhower Library, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, and the Widener Library, Harvard, University, Cambridge, MA. She also taught German language and literature at Johns Hopkins.

—Joseph N. Swab



photo: J. Swab

At her farewell party, Sarah Thomas received a large gift-wrapped box, containing, it turns out, the first copy of the just-received-that-day CD-ROM of the *World List of Agricultural Serials*, a major project completed by Technical Services Division under her direction. NAL Director, Joseph H. Howard, led the farewell program.



photo: J. Swab

A group of participants in the Baltimore-Washington Corridor Chamber of Commerce reception in the lobby of the National Agricultural Library on February 20, 1992. NAL staff joined the Chamber members to answer questions, to provide information on NAL products and services, and to discuss potentialities for cooperative activities. The Chamber decorated the NAL lobby with materials used for a "Presidents' Day" Ball held earlier in the week, thus over the heads of the assembly can be seen oval portraits of Lincoln, Jefferson, and other presidents.



## News Notes

# NAL Works to Improve Relations with Area Businesses

In an effort to make businesses in the Baltimore-Washington area more aware of the services available from the National Agricultural Library, the library hosted a meeting of the board of directors of the Baltimore-Washington Corridor Chamber of Commerce on January 14.

The chamber is comprised of over 500 businessmen and women. The organization seeks to promote and improve business relations in the area around the two cities. One of the ways it does this is by making its members aware of the many federal government resources available to area businesses.

NAL Director Joseph H. Howard welcomed the organization's 25-member board of directors to the library and invited them to contact NAL whenever they might need agricultural information. Tom Bryant, Jr., of the Associates of the National Agricultural Library, also addressed the chamber's board of directors and invited the businesses to support NAL through membership in the Associates.

H. Walter Townsend, chief executive officer of the Baltimore-Washington Corridor Chamber, thanked Howard and Bryant and called NAL "one of the Corridor's best kept secrets." He said his organization and area businesses "look forward to working more closely with the NAL in the future."

After their meeting, the chamber board of directors was given a tour of the library featuring the optical disc developed by NAL which contains over 16,000 photographs from the USDA photo files.

NAL followed up on this activity by hosting a reception



photo: J. Swab

Dan Bolita of World Wide Delivery, Inc., Laurel, MD, was one of the participating Chamber members. Here he is seen with the portrait of his grandfather, the late Dr. Theodore C. Byerly, in the Poultry Hall of Fame in the second floor gallery of the National Agricultural Library.





photo: J. Swab

The circulation desk and catalog area of the NAL lobby with participants in the Chamber of Commerce reception. The bunting, columns with golden eagles perched on the capitals, and drapery backing a large presidential seal were part of the "Presidents' Day" decorations which provided the theme for the reception.

for the entire membership of the Baltimore-Washington Corridor Chamber the evening of February 20. Addressing the group of about 200 chamber members attending the gathering were Walter Townshend, president of the chamber, and Joseph H. Howard, NAL Director. NAL managers and key public services staff participated in the reception and discussed NAL services and activities with the chamber members.

— Brian Norris



photo: J. Swab

Walter Townshend, President of the Chamber, addressing the assembled members.

## Archival Photocopy?

In the article on "National Preservation Planning for Agriculture" in the November/December 1991 issue of *ALIN*, 17(11/12):1-8, in an editor's note on pages 3-4, I questioned the permanence of photocopies and cast doubt on photocopying as a means of preservation. Ellen McCrady, editor of *Abbey Newsletter*, and a member of the ALA RLMS Subcommittee on Preservation Photocopy Guidelines, has pointed out to me that the professional view on photocopying as a means of preservation has changed in recent years, partly as a result of a study done by NIST for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). It is possible to make archival photocopies if the right materials and methods are used and the equipment is properly maintained. Photocopying is one of the valuable options for preservation.

The study done for NARA, entitled *Archival Copies of Thermofax, Verifax, and Other Unstable Records*, is available from NTIS as PB-90-171 836. The guidelines being compiled by the Subcommittee on Preservation Photocopy Guidelines will be published as soon as completed.

Ms. McCrady indicated she would be willing to discuss this preservation method with anyone having questions. She can be reached by telephone at 801-373-1598, by FAX at 801-375-4423, or by mail at 320 East Center Street, Provo, Utah 84606.

— Joseph N. Swab, editor.

# NAL Saved Search List Updated

by Karl Schneider and Jerry Rafats  
Reference & User Services Branch, NAL

For almost 20 years the National Agricultural Library has maintained a number of subject specific search strategies on the computers at DIALOG for access by our staff and any other interested users. Over two years ago, DIALOG altered their pricing algorithm for the cost of saving these searches on a monthly basis. Because many of the searches had been created in the "early days" of DIALOG and utilized single terms on each search line, the costs for the save function were increased dramatically.

To keep the searches available for users, and to reduce NAL's costs for this service, the Saved Search Review Committee, Jerry Rafats, Charles Bebee, Karl Schneider, and others, set out to review, revise, reformulate, and re-enter these searches. In the process, normal work responsibilities, retirements, new technologies, and new organizational assignments and focus areas kept coming in the way of completing the task. Now, after two years of piece-meal progress, we are pleased to announce to users that the saved search list update has been completed.

All of the searches are written to be cost-effective for saving. As many as 240 characters are allowed in one DIALOG Select (S, or SS) command line. Several of these search strategies use almost that length in many lines. There is a "dummy" line as the first line in each search to identify the subject(s) covered. Use of AGRICOLA specific commands such as SH =, SF =, etc is almost non-existent. The searches tend to be rather comprehensive, so that it might be necessary to add additional subject concept terms or limits to achieve desired focus specificity.

Included here is the text of BULLET24 from ALF, NAL's Agricultural Library Forum electronic bulletin board. This is where the most current version of this list will be available. In the near future, the searches themselves will be available on ALF as well as the list, to reduce the cost of end-user access and facilitate non-DIALOG access. Please see the notes included below to obtain information on partial use of a search, on modification alternatives, and on methods of making suggestions or comments to improve the value of these offerings.

## BULLET24: SAVED SEARCHES FROM NAL as of 20 February 1992

The following list (on page xx) identifies Saved Searches compiled by staff of the National Agricultural Library and stored on DIALOG's computers. They may be useful as a source of strategies, terms, and synonyms on a topic of interest. These searches are available for use by anyone with access to a DIALOG account. The numbers in the list use the following format:

*SBnnnn/USER nnnn*

This ENTIRE STRING is required to access a specific search. SB (can be SA, SB, SD) identifies the search as a

permanent save. The alpha-numeric string between "SB" and "/" is a specific search number or name. The number after "/USER" is the DIALOG user number whose account is charged for storage. A SPACE IS REQUIRED between "/USER" and "nnnn" (user number) in commands for a specific search. The present format of entries in this list uses acronym-like strings for the search name, and 9018 is the user ID number for all saved searches in this list.

The approach taken in the formulation of the strategies for these searches highlights factors of potential consequence when applying a strategy to specific search questions. Many of the search topics are general concepts (such as "Minorities and Discrimination") and coverage for these is broadly detailed, but by no means exhaustive. Error in favor of retrieval over relevance was accepted in most cases. Some more tightly defined subject areas (such as "Acid rain") are covered rather comprehensively. Retrieval levels from AGRICOLA show orders of magnitude variation among examples of both these types of searches. No effort was made to restrict to language, location, time, or place (save for Geographic searches, and "Long range planning"). Concern for constructing "standard" (non-specific to AGRICOLA) strategies that would be highly transportable among databases was high.

To list the concepts and terms for review of a particular search, type the command:

*RECALL SBsrch#/USER user#*

To execute a saved search on DIALOG, type:

*EX SBsrch#/USER user#*

or

*EXS SBsrch#/USER user#*

EX runs the search and assigns ONLY ONE set number, to the final set created in the search. EXS numbers each term searched and all intermediate sets created by the strategy.

Please note that some searches may utilize terms and sets with limited application to your specific search. To retrieve and execute only selected groups of sets or terms in a search, two steps are required. First, RECALL the search to view the commands line by line. Second, execute the desired lines of the search using the command format:

*exs sbnnnn/user nnnn/line#-line#*

where line# indicates the desired command lines of the saved search. If additional changes or more subtle modifications are required, after execution of any selected command lines as shown above, the strategy may be saved or tempsaved and edited online via the DIALOG editor.

The National Agricultural Library maintains these searches on DIALOG as a convenience to users. They are available for use as reference sources or in searching any database. Your comments, criticisms, or suggestions are most welcome. Enter messages on NAL's ALF (Agricultural Library Forum) electronic bulletin board (301/504-6510, -5111, -5496, -5490), or, forward your comments or suggestions to:

*Reference Unit, Room 111  
ATTN: Saved Search Review  
National Agricultural Library  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351  
Tel: 301/504-5204*



**I. Geographics: These searches may be used to limit a subject to specified countries.**

saasia/user 9018	Asia, except Soviet bloc
sapacif/user 9018	Pacific Islands & Oceania
sanafri/user 9018	North and West Africa
sasafri/user 9018	South, East & Central Africa
sausa/user 9018	U.S. (by ARS regions)
sajapan/user 9018	Japan
sachina/user 9018	China (both spellings)
samalay/user 9018	Malaysia and Indonesia
sasamer/user 9018	South America
sabrazi/user 9018	Brazil
sacamer/user 9018	Central America & Caribbean
saussr/user 9018	USSR (under review)
saeurop/user 9018	Europe (except USSR, under review)

**II. Entomology and Insect Control**

salepid/user 9018	Lepidopterous pests
sacottn/user 9018	Cotton Insects
saticks/user 9018	Ticks
samites/user 9018	Mites
saipm/user 9018	Integrated Pest Management
sastink/user 9018	Stinkbugs
samast/user 9018	Mastitis vectors
sahymen/user 9018	Hymenoptera
sadung/user 9018	Dung flies
saroach/user 9018	Cockroaches

**III. Plants, Crops, and Weeds**

sahalop/user 9018	Halophytic plants
samycor/user 9018	Mycorrhizae
sainspl/user 9018	Insectivorous plants
sdgrass/user 9018	Grasses
saaweed/user 9018	Aquatic weeds
salily/user 9018	Liliaceae
savars/user 9018	Varieties and cultivars
saoils/user 9018	Oilseeds
sdmillet/user 9018	Millet and sorghum names
saploid/user 9018	Ploidy
sarads/user 9018	Radioactive fallout-Ag effects
saveges/user 9018	Vegetables (common names)
sdfruit/user 9018	Fruits & Berries (common names)

**IV. Animals**

sdbird/user 9018	Birds (other than poultry)
sdpoult/user 9018	Poultry
sdcows/user 9018	Cattle
sdswine/user 9018	Swine
sdsheep/user 9018	Sheep
sdwild/user 9018	Wildlife

**V. Nutrition and Health**

sdenzym/user 9018	Enzymes name elements
sdhvmtn/user 9018	Heavy metals

sdvitam/user 9018	Vitamins
sdtranut/user 9018	Trace element nutrients
sdfish/user 9018	Fishes & seafoods
sbamino/user 9018	Essential amino acids

**VI. Soil Classes: These six searches cover the terms comprising the International Soils Classification.**

saalfis/user 9018	Alfisols and Aridisols
saentis/user 9018	Entisols and Flistosols
saincep/user 9018	Inceptisols
samolls/user 9018	Mollisols
saaxis/user 9018	Oxisols and Spodosols
saultis/user 9018	Ultisols and Vertisols

**VII. Soils: Reclamation and Management**

sdcontil/user 9018	Conservation tillage
sdarain/user 9018	Acid rain
sdtranut/user 9018	Trace elements and Nutrients
sdarid/user 9018	Arid lands
sdhvmtn/user 9018	Heavy metals
sdsreclam/user 9018	Reclaiming disturbed lands
sdgnhd2o/user 9018	Groundwater

**VIII. Miscellaneous**

sdbiotec/user 9018	Biotechnology
sdbifuel/user 9018	Biomass and alcohol fuels
sdgranel/user 9018	Grain elevator safety
sdeocr/user 9018	Minorities and Discrimination
sdlrp/user 9018	Long-range planning
sdcomdev/user 9018	Community development
sdcareer/user 9018	Career terms

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## NAL and USGS Library Cooperate in Map Cataloging

The National Agricultural Library and the library of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) will cooperate in providing bibliographic control and housing of many of the nation's maps related to agriculture and earth science.

According to program managers, this action is expected to benefit U.S. agricultural and earth scientists "by providing a broader and more expedient access to these important and useful materials."

In a memorandum of understanding signed by the heads of the two government libraries it was agreed that NAL will be responsible for the processing of U.S. Department of Agriculture maps, and the USGS library will catalog, store, and lend non-USDA maps in the field of earth sciences. The bibliographic records for in-scope agriculture and earth science maps will be added to NAL's AGRICOLA (AGRICultural OnLine Access) database either by NAL or USGS personnel via the National Agriculture Cataloging

Network.

For additional information, contact:

*Idalia P. Acosta, Head  
Cataloging Branch, Room 110,  
National Agricultural Library  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351  
Telephone: (301) 504-7565; FTS: 964-7565*

or:

*Robert Bier, Chief  
Cartographic Information Section  
USGS Library  
12,201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Reston, VA 22092  
Telephone: (703) 648-6207*

—Idalia Acosta



## Staff Update

### Butler Retires

In the autumn of 1991, Robert W. Butler, retired after nearly 23 years at the National Agricultural Library. For 14 of those years, from 1970 to 1984, he was head of acquisitions. He joined the NAL staff in December 1968 as a member of the Pesticides Documentation Center staff, and since 1984 he has held a variety of management positions working in collection development, education and training, library automation, and preservation.

Bob Butler was an early advocate of automation in NAL, helping lead the way by automating the serials renewal process. More recently he was a leader in the development of AGRICOLearn, a computer-assisted instructional program to provide instruction in searching NAL's AGRICOLA database. Other highlights of his professional career while serving at NAL were providing leadership in the American Library Association's Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries Discussion Group in its formative years; representing the USDA in Saudi Arabia to design the functional layout of its agricultural library; and serving as editor of the *LAALD Quarterly Bulletin* for several years.

Before coming to NAL, Bob Butler held library positions in several government agencies, including the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Maritime Administration, the U.S. Army Transportation Intelligence Agency, and the U.S. Army at Fort Detrick. He left the government for several years to work at Yeshiva University in New York. He earned his library master's degree at Catholic University.

At Bob's retirement luncheon, Les Kulp, Head of NAL's Reference and User Services Branch, and principal speaker, said, "I've known Bob for a long time: 22 years. In fact we

worked together for about 17 of those years, and I found that in all my dealings with him, he was someone that I could depend upon; he was consistent, fair.... Those who worked for or with him know that it is a part of his character to credit them fully for their role in whatever was accomplished under his leadership. To many people on the staff, he was not only a good coworker, but he was a friend, and he is going to be missed not only for the contributions he made to the library, but also because he is a nice wholesome person who has a good and generous disposition toward people. All of us here want to wish him good health and a retirement full of joy and happiness and success however he may define that to be. We wish him the very best that life affords."

Bob indicated that in retirement he is going to lead a life of meditation and working with the SYDA Foundation in the Catskills near South Fallsburg, N.Y. He is also going to manage an audio-tape library for the foundation and operate a sound system for its programs.

—Joseph N. Swab

—Les Kulp contributed to this article.



photo: J. Swab

Robert W. Butler

### Hugh Thomas Becomes Plum Island Librarian

E. Hugh Thomas, Jr., became the new Research Librarian for the Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC), Greenport (Long Island), New York on December 16, 1991. He succeeds Stephen Perlman, librarian for 12 years, who in July 1991 began working as an administrative librarian with the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina.

PIADC is one of over 120 USDA Agricultural Research Service research laboratories. The PIADC Library supports research for Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) scientists. The research scientists conduct research on exotic animal diseases foreign to the U.S., including foot-and-mouth disease and African swine fever. Their goals include developing vaccines to protect agriculture from economically devastating livestock diseases.

Mr. Thomas' goals for the PIADC Library include expanding services to PIADC researchers and automating as many of the library operations and services as possible. He said, "I am a firm believer in library automation and the



benefits that the computer age has brought to our field.”

Mr. Thomas visited the National Agricultural Library on March 3-4 for an orientation to NAL programs and services. He joins the USDA Agency Field Libraries group at a challenging time. The National Agricultural Library and the Agricultural Research Service are cooperating to improve USDA scientists' access, through electronic linkages, to information resources.

Mr. Thomas earned his M.S. in Library Science in Education from Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama, in 1977. From 1980 to 1985 he served as a medical librarian for the Eye Foundation Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. In 1985 he joined the Department of the Army, with which he has served in Ft. Polk, Louisiana; Ft. Stewart and Ft. Benning, Georgia. Mr. Thomas, his wife Becky, and two daughters, Mikala and Mary, live in Connecticut.

—Peggy J. Beavers

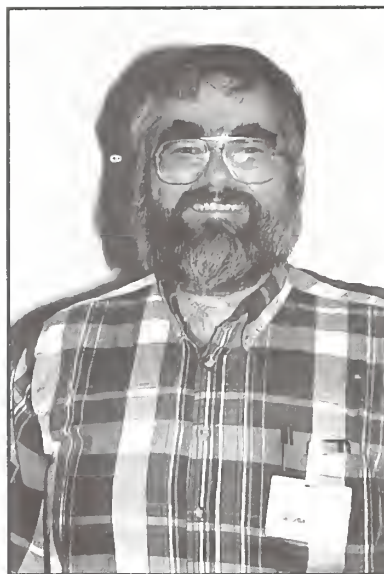


photo: J. Swab

Hugh Thomas



## New Publications of Note

# National Agricultural Library Guide to Services Available

A free guide containing easy-to-understand instructions on how to use the many services of the National Agricultural Library is now available. From how to get there, to how to use the NAL collection, to how to set your computer to access NAL's electronic bulletin board, the *Guide to Services of the National Agricultural Library* explains in simple language everything one needs to know to take maximum advantage of the largest collection of agricultural information in the world.

“We would like more people to use the fabulous resources we have here at NAL,” said Keith Russell, NAL Associate Director for Public Services. “Users of NAL are often overwhelmed when they walk into the library and are faced with the difficulty of finding what they need from NAL's collection of more than 2.1 million items.”

According to Russell, the NAL *Guide to Services* will “greatly facilitate” use of the library's services and resources. “Between the *Guide*, the helpful and knowledgeable NAL staff, and the easy-to-use computer terminals available to our patrons, users of NAL should be able to find the information they need in minutes,” Russell said.

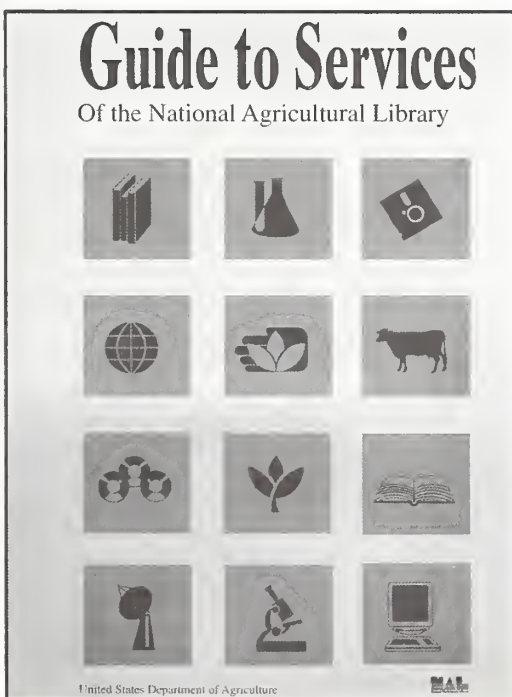
Frequently, according to Russell, the needed information can be provided by NAL without a person even going to NAL. The *Guide to Services* explains several ways this can be done.

This revision of a guide which was long out print incorporates as a new feature the use of pocket inserts which will enable frequent updating of variable information. The first three inserts include addresses and telephone numbers for NAL units and services, information on vendors of NAL products such as databases, publications, and CD-ROMs, and information on fees or charges for some services. Persons who would like to make recommendations of additions or changes to the *Guide* or inserts, should send them to the address below.

Copies of the *Guide to Services of the National Agricultural Library* are available free-of-charge by sending a self-addressed mailing label to:

National Agricultural Library  
Attn: Guide to Services, Room 204  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

—Brian Norris



# Pesticide Applicator Training Products Available from NAL

Claudia V. Weston  
Technical Services Division, Room 100  
National Agricultural Library, USDA  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351  
Or call (301) 504-5018

The National Agricultural Library, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Extension Service (ES) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is developing a comprehensive collection of bibliographic material for use in pesticide applicator training (PAT). In addition to an enhanced collection, this cooperative venture has resulted in the creation of two products: PEST (Pesticide Education, Safety, and Training), a hypermedia database, and Pesticide Applicator Training Materials: a Bibliography.

## PEST

PEST, a prototype hypermedia database, is intended for use by trainers of pesticide applicators, advanced practitioners, or anyone interested in pesticides, water quality, or pest management. It provides access to general information on key pest management concepts and to a variety of resources. Selecting one of these key concepts—toxicity, water quality as affected by pesticides, or pest management—determines the path taken through the application.

Through menu selections, a number of bibliographies also can be accessed. These include a general bibliography containing AGRICOLA (*AGRICultural OnLine Access*) pesticide applicator training material citations, a toxicity bibliography containing TOXLINE and AGRICOLA citations, and a water quality bibliography containing AGRICOLA citations. All of the bibliographies within PEST can be searched by entering a keyword to retrieve more subject specific citations.

Through hypermedia links, three color-coded maps provide access to state and regional information. The first is a U.S. Economic Research Service map of the United States showing Classes I-III water contamination due to pesticide use with additional information available on the specific classes. Another is a map of the United States showing the four U.S. Extension Service Regions with each state linked to lists of the state's State Lead Agency, Pesticide Coordinator(s), and Land-Grant Libraries, and the last is a map of the United States showing the ten EPA regions linked to lists of states comprising the region and EPA regional office addresses.

Other resources include: a connection to SilverPlatter's AGRICOLA, PEST-BANK, and TOXLINE CD-ROM databases and to the online vendors, DIALOG and BRS; and a glossary containing definitions of key pest management terminology.

PEST runs on IBM AT compatible equipment with a hard disk drive and a 1.2 MB floppy disk drive. At a minimum, the system should have 640 kilobytes for memory and 3.0 megabytes for storage. Because of the color graphics and the way in which hypertext links are indicated, a VGA color monitor is also required.

For additional information or to obtain a free copy of the database contact:

## PAT Bibliography

In 1983, through an agreement with the EPA and ES, the National Agricultural Library began developing a collection of PAT materials. This collection was documented in a bibliography entitled: "Guides and Manuals for Pesticide Applicator Training: January 1979-August 1985." For the older materials in the NAL collection, that publication is still a reference source.

In the intervening years the collection has grown, and the library has published "Pesticide Applicator Training Materials: a Bibliography" to reflect the continuing effort to enhance the present collection with new and current titles. The bibliography will be helpful to those involved in developing training programs and teaching the safe use and correct methods of applying agricultural pesticides. It is Number 106 in the series *Bibliographies and Literature of Agriculture*. Donations of multiple copies of material used by organizations in both the public and private sector form the core of this collection.

This bibliography contains references to pesticide applicator training materials in print, audiovisual, and machine readable formats collected from 1985 to July 1991. The 724 unique titles are arranged alphabetically under the appropriate applicator categories to which they relate and each entry includes an abstract, place of publication, language of text, descriptors, and NAL call number. Two indexes facilitate access to citations for alternate media and non-English citations.

A copy of the publication may be obtained by sending a request, with a self-addressed label, to:

Water Quality Information Center, Room 109  
Reference and User Services Branch  
National Agricultural Library, USDA  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

—Claudia Weston

## Study Finds Nation's Agricultural Knowledge in Danger

A large percentage of the nation's priceless collection of agricultural knowledge is deteriorating and is in danger of being lost. That is the gist of a report recently released on the condition of agricultural materials maintained at the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, MD.

The report, entitled *A Preservation Plan for the National Agricultural Library*, states "that more than 50 percent of the monographs and serials in the collection are disintegrating and that more than one-fourth of the volumes are brittle, requiring that their contents be transferred to another



medium in order to be useful and to escape loss to the scientific world. For a significant quantity, as yet unmeasured, it is already too late, for they are too disintegrated to be used by researchers."

The study was conducted by NAL in 1989 with assistance from the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The purposes of the study were to determine the physical condition of the NAL collection and "the environmental factors affecting that condition," and to develop a plan to ensure the preservation of the agricultural information at NAL.

"For generations NAL has worked at preserving the nation's agricultural knowledge," said NAL Director Joseph H. Howard. "However, in recent years the task has become even more acute with more and more documents reaching the stage where they are in danger of being lost. We at NAL wanted to know the exact scope of the preservation problems at the library. The study has given us that information, and we must now find solutions."

The report offers a plan for addressing the problem of preservation at NAL. Currently, NAL managers are seeking resources to put the plan into affect.

Copies of the report are available by sending a stamped, self-addressed mailing label to:  
National Agricultural Library  
Attn: Preservation Plan, Room 204  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

—Brian Norris

## Bibliographies on Crop Protection Available from NAL

The National Agricultural Library has published five bibliographies on protecting various agricultural crops or commodities from diseases and environmental damage.

The bibliographies are: *The Protection of Lawn and Turf Grasses, 1979-April 1991*; *The Protection of Stored Grains, 1979-April 1991*; *The Protection of Nut Crops, 1979-April 1991*; *The Protection of Tomatoes, Egg Plants, and Peppers, 1979-April 1991*; and *The Protection of Peanuts, 1986-May 1991*.

Sponsored by NAL and the Office of Pesticide Programs of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the bibliographies contain citations of articles, research reports, advisories from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state agricultural departments, and other materials listed in NAL's AGRICOLA (*AGRICultural OnLine Access*) bibliographic database.

These are the 39th through 43rd bibliographies in a series of "Citations from AGRICOLA Concerning Diseases and Other Environmental Considerations." They were published in the bibliographic series, *Bibliographies and Literature of Agriculture*, BLA numbers 107 through 111.

A memorandum of understanding signed by NAL and EPA officials, in which the two agencies agreed to produce the publications, states the bibliographies "will be useful to

EPA in the regulation of pesticides, as well as to any researcher in the field of plant or commodity protection."

According to program managers, the sources referenced in the bibliographies include "the majority of the latest available information from U.S. publications involving commodity protection throughout the growing and processing stages" for each agricultural commodity covered.

Other commodities covered in the series in previous years were tropical and subtropical fruits, small grains, cucurbits (pumpkins, squash, gourds, etc.), minor vegetable crops, forestry, and peas, beans, and lentils.

Copies of the bibliographies may be obtained by sending a request with a self addressed label to:

EPA Publication Project, Rm 1402  
Reference and User Services Branch  
National Agricultural Library, USDA  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

## Bibliography Focuses on Women in Agriculture

Women's roles in world agriculture are spotlighted in a new bibliography available from the Alternative Farming Systems Information Center (AFSIC) of the National Agricultural Library.

The bibliography, called *Women in Agriculture* and compiled by Jane Potter Gates of the AFSIC staff, lists nearly 500 selected articles, books, videotapes, and reports published from January 1979 to July 1991 and related to the role of women in world agriculture. Citations are from NAL's AGRICOLA database, and the items are contained in the NAL collection.

"*Women in Agriculture* is intended for current awareness, and it is not an in depth bibliography on the subject" Gates said. However, the bibliography is "a substantial resource for recent material on women in agriculture."

Copies of the bibliography are available by sending a request, with a self-addressed label, to:

National Agricultural Library  
Public Services Division, Room 111  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

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(Agriculture Datebook, from p. 23)

**June 1-5:** The Pacific Forum for Marine Science and Technology (PACON'92). Kailua-Kona, HI. Contact: Jaw-Kai Wang, FAX 808-956-2580.

**June 1-12:** United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Contact: Jean-Claude Faby, UN Conference on Environment and Development, DC2-803, 2 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017. 212-963-8098; or 530 6D, UN Secretariat, New York, NY 10017. Phone: 212-963-5900.

**June 2-4:** Aquaculture in the Mid-Atlantic 1992. Annapolis, MD. Contact: Maryland Aquaculture Office, 301-841-5724.

(see Agriculture Datebook, p. 22, col. 2)



## New Bibliographies

The bibliographies in the *Quick Bibliography* series are primarily computerized online as batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Public Services Division Staff in response to customer requests. Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, and probable value to a larger audience. Since October 1988, all *QB's* include search strategies. Unless otherwise specified, citations are from AGRICOLA.

The other bibliographic series, including *Special Reference Briefs*, have been researched and produced to meet special needs of clientele of the Library and its Information Centers. Revisions or updates will be announced when produced. Only one copy of a requested title will be sent; however, requesters may make copies. To request a copy of a *Quick Bibliography*, *Special Reference Brief*, or other bibliographic work, circle the desired title(s) below and send your request with a self-addressed label to:

Reference Branch, Room 111  
National Agricultural Library  
10301 Baltimore Boulevard  
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

## Quick Bibliographies

**Q.B. - 92-15.** Rural Education, January 1979-September 1991. 140 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. January 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-85.

**Q.B. - 92-16.** Earthworms in Agriculture, January 1986-October 1991. 236 citations in English. Prepared by Jerry Rafats. Reference and User Services Branch. January 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-63.

**Q.B. - 92-17.** Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*) & Its Control, January 1979-October 1991. 295 citations in English. Prepared by Jerry Rafats. Reference and User Services Branch. January 1992. Updates Q.B. 88-56.

**Q.B. - 92-18.** Information Access in Rural America, January 1979-September 1991. 159 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. January 1992.

**Q.B. - 92-19.** Gene Transfer in Animal Systems, January 1985-October 1991. 265 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Robert Warmbrodt and Virginia Stone. Biotechnology Information Center. January 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-13.

**Q.B. - 92-20.** Raising Quail, Partridge, Pheasant, Bobwhites, and Ostriches, January 1987-January 1992. 299 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Jean A. Larson. Animal Welfare Information Center. January 1992. Updates Q.B. 91-72.

**Q.B. - 92-21.** Crime in Rural America, January 1979-September 1991. 67 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia La Caille John. Rural Information Center. January 1992.

**Q.B. - 92-22.** Plant Propagation, January 1982-November 1991. 272 citations in English. Prepared by Henry Gilbert. Reference and User Services Branch. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 89-85.

**Q.B. - 92-23.** Goat Production and Marketing in the United States, January 1984-December 1991. 271 citations in English. Prepared by Susan Chapman. Reference and User Services Branch. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 87-57.

**Q.B. - 92-24.** Air Pollution Effects on Crops and Forests, January 1986-December 1991. 435 citations in English. Prepared by Jane Potter Gates. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-28.

**Q.B. - 92-25.** Breeding and Selecting Crops for Insect Pest Resistance, January 1986-December 1991. 496 citations in English. Prepared by Jane Potter Gates. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 89-75.

**Q.B. - 92-26.** Drip, Trickle and Surge Irrigation, January 1988-December 1991. 335 citations in English. Prepared by Jane Potter Gates. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 91-23.

**Q.B. - 92-27.** Farming Systems Research, January 1979-December 1991. 264 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Jane Potter Gates. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-01.

**Q.B. - 92-28.** Agroforestry Systems, January 1987-December 1991. 493 citations in English. Prepared by Jane Potter Gates. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. February 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-27.

**Q.B. - 92-29.** Part-time Farming, January 1979-January 1991. 281 citations in English. Prepared by Jayne T. MacLean. Alternative Farming Systems Information Center. March 1992. Updates Q.B. 90-75.

**Q.B. - 92-30.** BST-Bovine Growth Hormone, January 1987-January 1992. 376 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Jean A. Larson. Animal Welfare Information Center. March 1992. Updates Q.B. 91-75.

**Q.B. - 92-31.** PST-Porcine Growth Hormone, January 1979-January 1992. 205 citations; languages: none excluded.



## Special Reference Briefs

**SRB-92-04.** Plants for People: The Psychological and Physiological Effects of Plants. Prepared by Judith Keane and Jayne T. MacLean. National Agricultural Library. January 1992.

**SRB-92-05.** Biotechnology: Education. Prepared by Diana Airozo and Robert D. Warmbrodt. Biotechnology Information Center. February 1992.

## Rural Information Center Publication Series

**RICPS-4.** Federal Funding Sources for Rural Areas. Compiled by M. Louise Reynnells. Rural Information Center. December 1991.

**RICPS-7.** Rural Health Services Funding: A Resource Guide. Compiled by Louise Murphy Simmons. Rural Information Center. December 1991.

**RICPS-11.** Journals Significant to Rural Development Received at the National Agricultural Library. Compiled by Dorothy A. Heise. Rural Information Center. December 1991.

**RICPS-15.** Fee Hunting and Fishing on Private Land. Compiled by Thomas P. Shilts. Edited by Dorothy A. Heise. Rural Information Center. January 1992.

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(Agriculture Datebook, from p. 17)

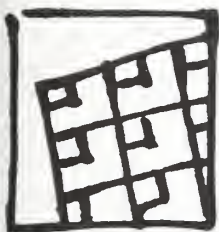
June 4: American Bankers Association. Community Development Lending Conference. Atlanta, GA; Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Contact: 202-720-5277.

June 5-7: World Pork Expo. Des Moines, IA. Contact: 515-223-2600.

June 6-11: Special Libraries Association. San Francisco, CA. Contact: 202-234-4700.

June 8: National Nutrient Databank Conference. Baltimore, MD. Contact: 301-436-8617.





## Agriculture Datebook

**April 22:** U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration Rural Tourism Development Conference. Kansas City, MO; Adams Mark Hotel. Contact: 202-720-8653.

**April 23-25:** Biotechnology Science and Commercial Applications. Hilton Head, SC. Contact: 202-223-1175.

**April 24 (Tentative):** National Association of Realtors Mid-Year Meetings Subcommittee on Rural Housing Finance. Washington, DC; Sheraton-Washington Hotel. Contact: 202-720-5277.

**April 26-30:** USDA/HACU Leadership Group Quarterly Meeting. Puerto Rico. Contact: 202-720-4164.

**April 27:** The Food and Drug Law Institute. Palm Springs, CA. Contact: 202-720-7711.

**April 28:** National Association of WIC Directors. Tampa, FL. Contact: 703-305-2062.

**April 29-May 1:** Agricultural Communicators in Education North Central Region Meeting. Theme: "ACE On the Horizon." Urbana-Champaign, IL; University of Illinois. Contact: Anita Povich, 217-244-2827.

**April 30:** Rural Revitalization Conference. Normal, AL; Alabama A&M University. Contact: 202-720-4581.

**April 30-May 2:** "EcoVillage: Planning for Sustainable Living," the 1992 Eco-Justice Conference. Ithaca, NY; Cornell University. Contact: Anabel Hall, 607-255-9240.

**May 3-8:** World Fisheries Congress. Athens, Greece. Contact: Yanin Walker, 301-897-8616.

**May 4:** Electronic Benefits Transfer, What We've Learned—What We Need to Know. Chicago, IL. Contact: 202-720-7711.

**May 4-6:** Extension Technology Conference. Theme: "Connecting People: Options for Today and Tomorrow." Lansing, MI. Contact: Luke Reese, 517-355-3776.

**May 4-6:** Food Processing Automation Conference. Lexington, KY; Hyatt Regency. Contact: Fred Payne, 606-257-3000, Ext. 220.

**May 5:** Food Marketing Institute Supermarket Industry Convention & Educational Exposition. Chicago, IL. Contact: Harry Sullivan, 202-452-8444.

**May 5-7:** 13th National Online Meeting & Integrated Online Library Systems '92. New York, NY; New York Hilton. Contact: Learned Information, Inc., 609-654-6266.

**May 6-7:** National Association of Counties. Squaw Valley, CA. Contact: 202-205-1661.

**May 11:** American Planning Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC; Washington Hilton Hotel. Contact: 202-720-4581.

**May 11-14:** Second International Symposium on the Biosafety Results of Field Tests of Genetically Modified Plants and Microorganisms. Goslar, Germany. Contact: OAB, 703-235-4419.

**May 14:** Nutrition Symposium to Celebrate Older Americans Month. Washington, DC; USDA Patio (Tenta-

tive). Contact: Jeanne Priester, 202-720-2920 or Ann Chadwick, 202-720-3975.

**May 15:** Rural America Cluster Conference/W.K. Kellogg Foundation Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Contact: 202-720-8653.

**May 15-20:** Medical Libraries Association. Washington, DC. Contact: 312-419-9094.

**May 16-19:** Annual Meeting of the International Agribusiness Management Association. Oxford, England. Contact: 202-720-4164.

**May 16-21:** First International Workshop on the Culture of Bivalve Molluscs. Charleston, SC. Contact: John Manzi, 803-762-5033.

**May 17-20:** Association of Biotechnology Companies 6th International Biotechnology Meeting. San Diego, CA. Contact: 202-234-3330.

**May 17-20:** Fourth North American Symposium on Society and Resources Management. Madison, WI. Contact: Donald R. Field, School of Natural Resources, 1450 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

**May 20-23:** Annual Meeting, Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries. Columbus OH. Contact: Emanuel D. Rudolph, 614-292-3082.

**May 20-25:** Aquaculture 92, — Triennial Joint Meeting of the World Aquaculture Society, the National Shellfisheries Association, and the AFS Fish Culture Section. Orlando, FL; Marriott Hotel. Contact: Terry Bosson, 415-595-2704.

**May 20-25:** The First International Bivalve Culture Workshop in conjunction with "Aquaculture 92." Orlando, FL. Contact: Crest Organization, 415-595-2704.

**May 24-27:** International Association of Business Communicators Conference. San Francisco, CA. Contact: 415-433-3400 or 1-800-PRO-IABC (extension 118).

**May 26-30:** Fish Farming 92 in conjunction with the World Fishing Exhibition. Copenhagen, Denmark. Contact: Reed Exhibitions, FAX 81-9489870.

**May 27-29:** National Agricultural Biotechnology Council Meeting. College Station, TX; Texas A&M U., Col. of Veterinary Medicine. Contact: J. Shaddock, 409-845-5051.

**May 27-29:** UNESCO/MAB International Seminar: Variability of the Species Population in the Distribution Area. Vilnius, Lithuania. Contact: MAB Working Group, 232055 Vilnius, P.O. Box 855, Lithuania.

**May 27-29:** President's Council on Rural America Meeting. Location to be announced. Contact: 202-720-4581.

**May 30-June 5:** FIS/ASSINSEL Congress. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contact: Canadian Seed Trade Association, 613-829-9527.

**May 31-June 2:** Northeast Association of State Departments of Agriculture Annual Meeting. Cooperstown, NY; Otesaga Hotel. Contact: NASDA, 202-628-1566.

**June 1992:** Genomic Information: Ethical Implications. Seattle, WA. Contact: B. Brownfield, 206-543-5447.

**June 1:** American Meat Institute Annual Government Affairs Meeting. Washington, DC. Contact: J. Patrick Boyle, 703-841-2400.

**June 1-4:** Aquaculture Association of Canada. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Contact: AAC, 506-529-4766.

(see Agriculture Datebook, p. 17, col. 2)

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Joseph N. Swab, Editor.

Idalia Acosta, New Serials Editor.

Ruth Finnblade, Publications Exchange Editor.

Daniel Starr, Photographer.

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(Left above) Participants in a reception held by the Associates of NAL, Inc., for the IAALD Symposium on Advances in Information Technology included (L-R) Marianne van Boven (The Netherlands); Jan van der Burg (The Netherlands); and Torben Friis (Denmark).

(Left) Eckehard König (Germany); Roy Ackmann (Germany); Anton Mangstl (Germany); and Wolfrudolf Laux (Germany).

All of the participants pictured here also participated in the symposium in a variety of capacities as speakers, members of the IAALD Executive Committee, members of the Symposium Coordinating Committee, etc.

Photos by D. Starr.

For more on the Symposium see pages 4-8 of this issue of *ALIN*.